

Gallaudet Fact—

Q. Who was Frederick Law Olmsted, for whom Olmsted Green is named?

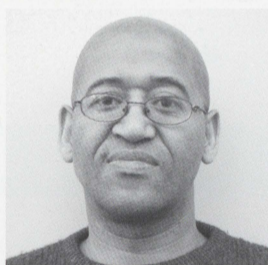
- A. A history professor whose family lived on Faculty Row
- B. A major benefactor of Gallaudet who contributed the funds to create the Olmsted Green playing field
- C. An urban planner who designed the first 16-acre Gallaudet campus
- D. A colleague of Laurent Clerc who advocated the use of sign language in deaf education

Find out on page 3.



Phil Bravin, president emeritus of the National Captioning Institute, presents at the February 6 seminar "Increasing Access with Assistive Technologies," a Gallaudet-hosted event focused on automated captioning and access technology. Additional presenters included Mike Fardon and Pat Brogan of the lecture capture company Echo360, whose technology Gallaudet helped to test and improve, Earl Parks, director of Gallaudet's Academic Technology, and Phyllis Tutura of The George Washington University's Project Management Program. Participants from area colleges and universities, the D.C. Public Library, and D.C. Public Schools, as well as members of the media, attended this Gallaudet-hosted event.

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Lindsay Dunn shares his admiration for Dr. Glenn Anderson.

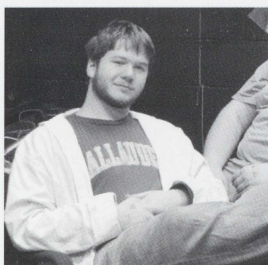


Students are welcomed to the Graduate School Fair.



Clerc Center Happenings

Johanna Cruz and Diego Trejo are contestants in the Optimist Club Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.



Joey Caverly is part of a motivated and innovative Bison TV staff.

ON THE GREEN

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Presenter compares Clerc, Lincoln



Dr. Douglas Baynton presents "Lincoln, Clerc, and the Design of the World."

President Abraham Lincoln and noted deaf educator Laurent Clerc both followed strong religious convictions, believing that the workings of the world were part of a divine plan that was beyond the capability of human beings to comprehend.

Their philosophies, which reflected the think-

ing of 19th century western society, were explored by noted historian Dr. Douglas Baynton at a February 11 lecture in the SLCC Atrium entitled "Lincoln, Clerc, and the Design of the World," in which he established similarities between these two historical figures. Baynton is a faculty member at the University of Iowa, coauthor with Jack Gannon and Jean Bergey of *Through Deaf Eyes: A Photographic History of an American Community*, and author of *Forbidden Signs: American Culture and the Campaign Against Sign Language*.

The lecture celebrated the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, and for Gallaudet, paid homage to his signing of the legislation on April 8, 1864, creating for the first time an institution of higher learning for deaf people. Gallaudet's Lincoln Bicentennial activities were organized by Edna Sayers, a professor in the English Department, and Diana Gates, Deaf Collection librarian, with support from the Office of the Provost.

Clerc, the father of deaf education in the United States, evoked divine providence in his address to the Connecticut Legislature when trying to convince its members that deaf people had as much of a right to be educated as hearing people—and therefore to become the first state to establish a school for them. "Every creature, every work of God is admirably well made, but if anyone appears imperfect in our eyes, it does not

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Dr. Soukup reports on February Board of Trustees meeting

(Note: The following is Board of Trustees Chair Benjamin Soukup's February 17 letter, which was emailed to the campus community, on the board's February 12 and 13 meeting.)

The Board of Trustees spent two highly productive—and very enjoyable—days on campus last week. It was great being back at Gallaudet and seeing some of the many exciting things that are taking place. A perfect example of this is the new Molecular Genetics Research Lab in Hall Memorial Building. (See article, page 3.) The trustees had the pleasure of participating in a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially open this ground-breaking facility, believed to be the only lab in the world designed, run, and staffed by deaf researchers. After the ceremony we took a tour of the new lab, and were highly impressed with it and the potential it has to once again demonstrate to the world the truly important research that our University does. We also enjoyed having lunch with the Graduate Student Association, the Graduate School and Professional Programs dean and department chairs, and the Faculty Welfare Committee on Thursday, and lunch in the Cafeteria with students on Friday. In addition, the board had a highly informative tour of the Clerc Center.

During our meetings, it was particularly gratifying for the board to learn that 90 percent of our students who enrolled in the fall semester returned for the spring semester. This is our best retention in 10 years, and it is a great achievement. On behalf of the board, I extend my congratulations to Enrollment Management, the Office of the Associate Provost, and all other members of our community involved in the enrollment and retention effort.

The presidential search process is something that everyone in our community is closely watching. I am pleased to announce that the Presidential Search Advisory Committee (PSAC) has established a job profile, including qualifications, for

the next president of the University. Additionally, trustee Pamela Lloyd-Ogoke was appointed to serve on the PSAC.

In addition to having responsibility for selecting the next president, the Board of Trustees is responsible for setting the future direction of the University and approving the next strategic plan. Last October, the board asked trustee Jeffrey Humber to work with a joint Board of Trustees/Campus Task Force to select a consultant to conduct data gathering and make recommendations to the board for a five-year strategic plan.

Last week, the trustees had an excellent presentation by consultants from Booz, Allen, and Hamilton, followed by a discussion on the challenges Gallaudet faces with changes in higher education, changing demographics of our future student population, and the issues identified during our Middle States Commission on Higher Education review this past year. The consultants gave the board a report that reflected their many interviews and data gathering activities during the past two months. At the conclusion of their report, the board reviewed five draft goal areas for strategic plan 2010-2015. The board has affirmed the five goal areas and the overall direction of the strategic planning process.

The trustees will receive an interim report from the consultants in mid-March. This report will contain a revised vision statement and objectives and strategies to support the five goal areas. The board has asked that trustees Larry Fleischer and Mr. Humber continue to lead the strategic planning process, working closely with myself, President Davila, and Richard Lytle, who is coordinating this process. In the coming days the consultants will work with the board to develop a process that involves the community and our stakeholders in a review of the proposed strategic plan prior to its presentation to the board at our May 2009 meeting. During the coming days I will

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Bison Roundup

An update on this season's sports



Aqua-Bison Carlisle Robinson (right) stands with her ribbon after winning fifth place in the 100 butterfly competition and breaking the Gallaudet record for that event during the CAC Championships at St. Mary's College.

By David Tossman

Men's Basketball:

The men finished 11-14, a five-game improvement from last year. There were five seniors on this year's team: Sekoe White, Jon Mowl, Chi Pun, Anthony Baskin, and Justin Grigsby. White was one of the top players of the year in the Capital Athletic Conference (CAC), finishing fourth in scoring with 17.5 points per game, sixth with 6.6 rebounds per game, fifth with 3.4 assists per game, eighth with 1.6 steals per game, and fifth in blocked shots. Mowl was one of the top point guards in the conference with 11.8 points per game, second with 2.1 steals per game, and also had 2.8 assists per game. Freshman Tony Tatum showed Bison fans what's in store for the next three years: He was the highest scoring freshman in the conference with 14.8 points per game, 4.7 rebounds per game, and 1.7 steals per game.

Women's Basketball:

The women doubled their win total from last season, going 6-19. Six of the losses came against teams ranked in the top 25 nationally. Sophomore Nukeitra Hayes picked up where she left off last season when she was named CAC Rookie of the Year, finishing third in the conference in scoring with 15.5 points per game, third with 9.5 rebounds per game, and first with 3.1 blocks per game.

Junior Amanda Kreiger was the team's second leading scorer with 10.3 points per game. Senior Ursa Rewolinski finished seventh in the conference with 8.6 rebounds per game. Sophomore Brittainy Payne was fifth in the conference in rebounding with 8.5 per game and seventh in assists with 3.2 per game.

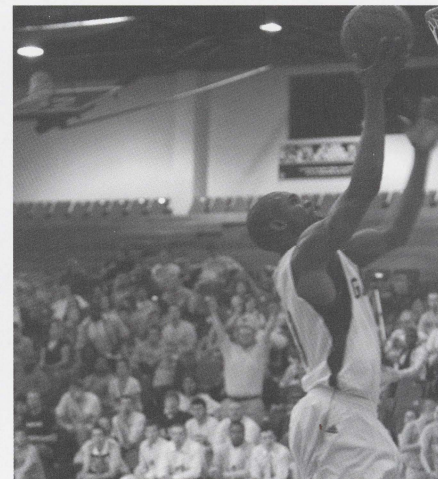
Women's Swimming:

The women's swim team finished the season with two wins and a sixth-place finish in the CAC Championships. Several school records were broken at the championships: Sophomore Carlisle Robinson, who was named to the All-Conference team, finished second in the 200 butterfly in 2:11.38, which broke a 21-year school record by four seconds, and also broke the school record in the 100 butterfly, going 1:00.18. Gallaudet also broke the school record in the 200 free relay with the team of Robinson, Katie Day, Misella Tomita, and Marissa Larson finishing in 1:51.73.

Men's Swimming:

The men's swim team broke three school records at the 2009 CAC Championships. The 200 free relay team of Daniel DiDonna, Zsolt Plaszkó, Grady Gallagher, and James McGowan went 1:36.30. The foursome also broke the school record in the 400 free relay with a time of 3:34.25. The 800 free relay team of McGowan, Kyle Sexton,

Gallagher, and Plaszkó broke the school record with a time of 8:04.80. As a team, Gallaudet swimmers set 64 personal best times at the championships. ■



Sekoe White scores two points for the Bison.

February BOT report

continued from page 1

be sharing more with the community about this process for developing our long-range strategic plan and providing for the involvement of the campus community and stakeholders.

Another positive way that Gallaudet is taking steps to show future students that the University is their best choice in higher education is our new branding program. Developing a strong brand—or image—will greatly help Gallaudet in reaching its strategic, recruiting, and marketing goals.

During its business meeting, the Board of Trustees discussed recommendations on a number of action items affecting the financial and academic well-being of the University. As a result of these discussions, the board approved:

- An audited FY 2008 financial statement.
- Establishing a policy that addresses the retention, management, and destruction of governance, financial, and personnel records.
- Adopting a certificate of incumbency authorizing President Davila, Vice President of Administration and

Finance Paul Kelly, Executive Director of Finance Jean Cibazar, and Assistant Treasurer William Hughes to act on behalf of the University regarding financial matters.

- Naming Fidelity Investments as provider of the University's 403 (b) savings plan services.
- Establishing a planned fiduciary committee composed of University employees to work with an external consultant who will help monitor the Fidelity plan and other savings plans.
- Increasing the University's line of credit from \$8 million to \$10 million.
- Increasing the travel per diem to \$42.
- Naming two new Board of Associates members—Betty Thompson, vice president of Booz Allen Hamilton, and Michael Ellis, national sales manager of Sprint Relay.

The board also approved:

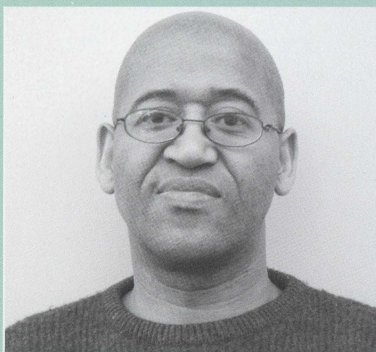
- A resolution honoring Dr. Cynthia Ashby, who resigned from the Board of Trustees after eight years of service to the University.
- A resolution of appreciation for the contributions of the late Jerald "JJ" Jordan, a 33-year employee of the University and an icon for athletes and fans of deaf sports around the world.

The trustees consider it an honor to play a role in the decision-making process for this great University, and we benefit tremendously in this regard from the guidance we receive from President Davila and the administration. We are indeed fortunate to be a part of Team Gallaudet!

I look forward to our May meeting. This is always an exciting time, with many activities marking the end of the academic year. I will particularly enjoy celebrating commencement with the Class of 2009! ■

Roving Reporter

Name an African-American individual who has inspired you.



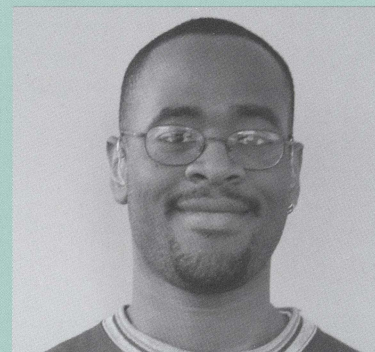
Dr. Glenn Anderson is my role model. His incredible intellect, compassion, and humility make him special. As a black deaf male, there is nobody better I could hope to emulate. He is an alumnus who has given so much to his alma mater and to the black deaf community.

Lindsay Dunn, manager of education programs, ASL & Deaf Studies Program



Rosa Parks, because she stood up for herself and her community.

Amy Aillon, undergraduate student



I'd say Barack Obama because he is always cool under pressure, and even though he is new at his job in the highest office in America, he is always facing the challenge head-on. I feel I have the same characteristics as he does, and that makes him even more inspiring.

Joseph Hill, Ph.D. student

ON THE GREEN

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Gallaudet's first-ever Graduate School Fair was held February 13 in the James Lee Sorenson Language and Communication Center's Atrium. The fair, entitled "Open Hands, Open Eyes, Open Minds ... Open House," provided information to undergraduate students from Gallaudet and neighboring colleges and universities who are considering graduate school; showcased some of the research and publications of Gallaudet's graduate faculty and students; and served as a venue for the campus community to find out more about the Graduate School and their colleagues' activities. Approximately 100 prospective students and visitors attended the event, visiting more than 14 booths with 23 programs or departments represented, and attending one or more of the 27 presentations related to graduate study at Gallaudet. The Graduate School and Professional Programs extends its thanks to the entire campus community for its participation and support of the fair.

Trustees' meeting culminates in grand opening of Molecular Genetics Laboratory

The Board of Trustees' February meeting concluded with the members' first glimpse of a new point of pride on the Gallaudet campus—the Biology Department's new Molecular Genetics Laboratory. On February 13, President Davila, Provost Stephen Weiner, and Trustee Richard Ladner officially opened the laboratory, which is located on the fourth floor of Hall Memorial Building, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"This is an exciting time in Gallaudet's history," said biology professor Derek Braun to the trustees, administrators, faculty, staff, and students assembled at the opening. "This is, we believe, the only biological research lab in the world designed, run, and staffed by deaf researchers."

The lab was designed with the counsel of architect Hansel Bauman, director of campus design and planning, using the principles of Deaf Space, a concept developed at Gallaudet by Bauman and the students he taught for several semesters. Deaf Space prioritizes ease of use and regard for the way deaf people communicate and make use of the surrounding environment.

The lab space, which used to be two classrooms and a botany lab, is comprised of both a large, open room that allows people to move easily and to facilitate communication, and a laboratory. Strategically placed windows fill the room with natural light that also shines into a meeting area unencumbered by walls. "The natural light was a purposeful design because it makes the laboratory more energy efficient, and it makes it a pleasant workplace, which in turn makes us more efficient workers," said Dr. Braun. "On a typical workday we usually don't even bother to turn on the main lights, as the lab is so well lit already."

The design offers clean sight lines so that anything taking place in any part of the lab is easily visible to students. Braun pointed out that this is a distinct departure from many other laboratories, which tend to be cluttered and dark.

The new space is filled with state-of-the-art equipment, including environmental chambers, ultralow freezers that are maintained at -80 degrees Celsius to preserve DNA and other biological samples, fume and sterile hoods, DNA gel electrophoresis apparatus, a digital gel imager to view DNA gels, PCR thermocyclers that can amplify DNA from trace samples, an ultracentrifuge, and three spectrophotometers.

Dr. Davila noted that it would not have been possible to construct such a lab or populate it with sophisticated tools without some help from Capitol Hill. "Construction of this outstanding new research laboratory was supported by funds appropriated by Congress," Davila said. "To date, we have invested more than one million dollars in this project, and we are very grateful to the federal government for making it possible."

The lab began operating last fall semester, and soon students were lining up to take part in research projects. "Now is the time to be a biology major at Gallaudet," said associate professor Caroline Solomon.

For more on the lab and the research projects taking place there, go to news.gallaudet.edu/?ID=14916. ■

Gallaudet Fact—

Answer: D. An urban planner who designed the first 16-acre Gallaudet campus. Olmsted was a well-known and distinguished planner at the time. He also designed the National Mall and New York City's Central Park.

Clerc Center Happenings

KDES students share the power of positive thinking



KDES contestants in the Optimist Club Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing enjoy a lighthearted moment on stage with KDES assistant principal Donald Mahoney (right). Pictured (from left) are: Johanna Cruz, Diego Trejo, Olivia Trimmer, Amanda Roberts, and Arjanee Davis.

By Susan M. Flanigan

Some people have a strong vision of their future at a young age. Johanna Cruz, a KDES sixth grader, is one of them. Standing on the stage in the KDES auditorium, Cruz shared her life's dream of becoming a teacher with the audience at the Optimist Club Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing on February 9.

Expanding on the contest theme, "For Me, Optimism is . . .," Cruz described herself as being optimistic in that as a teacher she could make a difference by helping children prepare to enter the adult world. As she made her presentation, Cruz demonstrated a look of determination, and a little impatience for not being able to start her future now. " . . . I do not want to wait until I am 18 years old. I don't want to wait until I am done with high school to decide what I want to become. If I start now I can be more prepared and get a head start on my future goals, especially with happiness," she said.

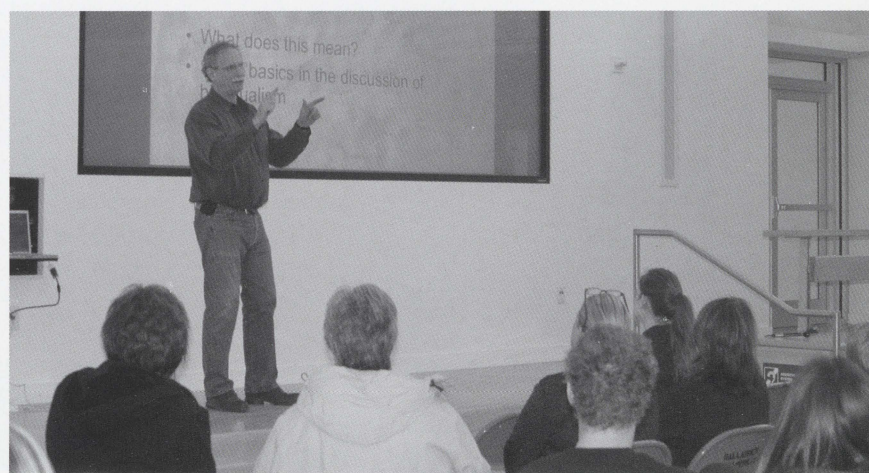
Cruz's determination paid off when the judges selected her as the winner of the Optimist Sunrise Club from the Alexandria, Va. Chapter. She received a medallion, a \$100 saving bond, and a \$25 movie gift card.

Diego Trejo, a KDES eighth grader, was selected as the winner of the Noonday Arlington, Va. Optimist Club.

Trejo focused on the importance of changing views to look on the bright side. "I like it when I have friends who try to cheer me up with funny and positive thoughts," he said. He also won a \$100 savings bond and a \$25 movie gift card. Both students were invited to compete in the Optimist Club's Virginia statewide championship on February 21.

Optimist representatives Steven Toth and Del Wilson presented the other KDES contestants—eighth graders Arjanee Davis, Amanda Roberts, and Olivia Trimmer—with medallions and movie gift cards. KDES Assistant Principal Donald Mahoney asked for a show of hands from students in the audience who would consider participating in the next contest. When a few hands went up, he praised those students by name. Then a few more hands went up, and a few more. It looks like the spirit of optimism is spreading!

The Optimist Club contest gives young deaf and hard of hearing students an opportunity to present their thoughts on a pre-arranged contest theme in a public forum. It also helps them develop self-confidence to present before a public audience. Students make a four- to five-minute presentation before a panel of judges and a large audience. The contestants are scored on their poise, content of the speech, delivery and presentation, and overall effectiveness. ■



Dr. Robert E. Johnson, a professor in the Department of Linguistics, presents the lecture "Deaf Bilingual Education: An Imperative." The February 4 presentation was part of the University's Culture and Language Lecture Series, which features discussions involving key issues in deaf communities. This discussion included a look at bilingual educational environments like Gallaudet. While the fact that they are bilingual is hard to dispute, Johnson argued, bilingual policy, curriculum, and practice are very much in their hands. He talked about specific constructions of bilingualism that might better lead to outcomes the University expects.

Correction:

An "Among Ourselves" item in the February 13 issue of *On the Green* regarding teleconferences with the Japanese ASL Signers Society (JASS) stated that one of the teleconferences was broadcast to the Kyoto JASS on January 31. It was recorded on that date, but it won't be broadcast until March 31. *OTG* regrets the error.



Susan Goldin-Meadow presents "Gesture's Role in Creating and Learning Language" on February 11 as part of the VL2 Presentation Series. Dr. Goldin-Meadow, who heads the Goldin-Meadow Laboratory in the Department of Psychology at the University of Chicago, presented her findings about the versatility of gesture and its role in children's language development and learning.

Among Ourselves

Dr. Brian Greenwald, associate professor of history, recently co-edited a book with Dr. John Van Cleve, professor emeritus, titled *A Fair Chance in the Race of Life: The Role of Gallaudet University in Deaf History*. This book examines Gallaudet's long domination by hearing presidents, issues of racism, paternalism, audism, gender discrimination, the University's relationship with the federal government, and the constant struggles of social conformity versus cultural divisiveness. Greenwald and Van Cleve write, "We believe that criticism and praise, when grounded in historical fact and presented coherently, as they are in all of these studies, are both useful as Gallaudet University moves forward and as the deaf community continues to evaluate, redefine, and reconstruct itself." Prior to this book, Greenwald also published two chapters in *The Deaf History Reader*, one focusing on the founding contexts of the Cobbs School and the American School for the Deaf; the other examining the role of Alexander Graham Bell and the American eugenics movement.

Clerc and Lincoln

continued from page 1

belong to us to criticize it," he argued. Baynton said that Clerc took his premise a step further, comparing human beings to the earth itself, where "everything is variable and inconstant." Likewise, there is no uniformity among human beings—they belong to different races, and some happen to be deaf.

If Clerc viewed "God as a landscaper," said Baynton, then Lincoln saw God "as an almighty architect"—a creator whose every work is part of a divine plan. While political and religious leaders of the day were fond of putting God solidly behind their causes, Lincoln believed that all people's opinions were based on the circumstances of their lives and should be respected.

In a famous speech made in 1854 when he was a presidential candidate, Lincoln went so far as to say that if citizens of the North had grown up in the South, they would undoubtedly have similar attitudes toward slavery as Southerners, and conversely, if people from the South had grown up in the North, their opinions would fall in line with the majority of Northerners.

Summing up his stance against slavery, Lincoln said, "Let us have faith that right makes might ... let us dare to do our duty as we understand it." Baynton said the last four words of Lincoln's statement show he recognized that both the Confederate and Union states claimed to act in accordance with the will of God—and Lincoln mused privately that God might indeed have a plan that differed altogether from both of them.

In fact, at no time during his presidency did Lincoln cast blame for the war on one side or the other. In both his 1861 inaugural address, at the beginning of the war, and in his second inaugural address in 1865, at the end of the war, Lincoln refused to assign the word "enemy," or to declare winners or losers in the conflict. Realizing that both sides had suffered tremendous losses, he strove to be a uniter. At the 1865 address he delivered his famous words, "Malice toward none, charity for all ... Let us strive to bind up the nation's wounds."

Like Clerc's analogy of God's landscape being "variable and inconstant," Baynton went on to talk Lincoln's imperfections—his bouts with depression, and his gawky, ungainly appearance that friends and detractors alike were fond of poking fun at. Lincoln was also plagued with self-doubt. He, like Clerc, realized many things were beyond his control, and that "He was not the captain of his ship," said Baynton. The metaphor of a sailing ship is a good one for both men, he added, because their vision of the world was the same—they had no control of the winds of change, and they had to make the best of where fate took them.

In conclusion, Baynton said that Clerc and Lincoln were similar in that both were great leaders who faced challenges in their lives. They were men who possessed what could be perceived as disadvantages, but they lived their lives by the principal of doing what they thought was right—indeed, finding it their duty to do so.

For more on Lincoln bicentennial activities, go to lincoln200.gallaudet.edu

Bison TV revives and innovates

Bison TV fans and those new to the Gallaudet channel may have noticed some changes this semester. A robust crew of managers, directors, writers, actors, producers, and photographers has taken on an expanded program and made it available to more viewers than ever before.

"I really enjoy working with the team; we have great staff," said Bison TV President Brian Suchite. As if to illustrate his point, a group of staff members had gathered in the organization's Ely Center office, and several came and went as he chatted with an *On the Green* reporter.

Looking back, Suchite acknowledged that Bison TV had not always had such a strong group. "It's hard to find people who are motivated to learn about filming, and hard to find people who stay committed," he said. Suchite believes that the station had its heyday some years ago, when many students were passionate about the medium of television and some got academic credit for their involvement.

The station's programming this semester evokes both old times with classic shows and new ones by following current TV trends. The line-up includes the regular weekly newscasts, supplemented by the new mini-show "Gallaudet University: Fact or Fiction?" produced by Bison TV photographer Michael Krysiwicz; the third season of the "Bison Next Top Model" reality show; the revived "Gallaudet University Talk Show (GUTS)"; and "The 8th Street Show" about what is happening in Gallaudet's immediate vicinity.

Just as the programming includes a mix of the new and old, the shows are filmed in locations that are both fresh and familiar. An episode of GUTS recently took part of the TV crew to the walkway in front of the James Lee Sorenson Language and Communication Center (SLCC), a location that was non-existent just a few months before.

Another Bison TV broadcast, a short film that involved an ASL ABC story, was filmed in and around the decades-old Lincoln Circle.

News segments with producers Jesse Wilson and Zilvis Paludnevicus and anchors Joseph Pfaff and Monica Keller are filmed in the station's new studio in the SLCC, which became functional this semester. Most of the digital tape then makes its way to the familiar spot on the second floor of the Ely Center, where staff members edit the raw footage into a final piece. Thanks to the proliferation of video editing software, however, that tape can also be reviewed, cut, and manipulated in computer labs and dorm rooms.

The Bison TV effort to include the community borrows from the past while moving with new trends. "News Room 101," a class the Art Department is developing in collaboration with Bison TV staff, will allow students to learn about new media and revive the tradition of earning credit toward graduation for helping out at the station.

One new idea is to survey viewers about their preferences for content and show times. Another is to invite student filmmakers to submit their work to the station. "We support student films," Suchite emphasized. "We're filmmakers, too."

Perhaps the biggest change is Bison TV's web streaming. Starting in fall 2008, the station began a live stream of its programming, allowing anyone, day or night, near or far, to enjoy Bison TV shows.

Watch Bison TV at aaweb.gallaudet.edu/bisontv.xml. To submit a film or idea, contact brian.suchite@gallaudet.edu.

To submit a question or information about a ghost story, alleged haunting, or strange happening for the "Gallaudet University: Fact or Fiction?" producer to investigate, contact Michael.Krysiwicz@gallaudet.edu



Members of the Bison TV staff take a break from editing in the station's Ely Center office. They are (from left) actor/writer Joey Caverly, producer/vice president Zilvis Paludnevicus, production manager/photographer Michael Krysiwicz, and executive producer/president Brian Suchite.

Campus Calendar

February

28—Gala to support Deaf Abused Women's Network, 7-10 p.m., Alumni House; Black Deaf Student Union hosts The Black Greek Party, 9 p.m., JSAC Flex A/B

March

2—PFLAG monthly meeting, 7:30-9 p.m., HMB S135

2-6—Midterm Week

9—Internship and Job Fair, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., GUKCH ballrooms

14-21—First Year Study Tour: Costa Rica

16-20—Spring Break